

JOBS

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, we can't cut our way to national prosperity. Since President Obama took office, private sector employment has steadily grown; but largely due to misguided priorities of many Republican officeholders, public sector cuts have offset that private sector job gain. In fact, the States that took the most severe hatchet to their State budgets have lost the most jobs and faced a more severe economic downturn. But the States that increased spending in the public sector saw real and steady economic growth since the recession began.

According to a study by the Center for American Progress, that's because there's a corresponding increase in the private sector when we pursue a responsible policy of investment in the public sector. Some States have, in fact, slashed their way into a deeper economic slump. Yes, big cuts in public spending do have an immediate effect on the quality of life; but it's worse if in addition to affecting our quality of life, we are actually making the national employment situation much worse. There's abundant data to support that conclusion.

Mr. Speaker, the fact is that President Obama's jobs bill invests in teachers, cops and firefighters because he knows that that investment will stimulate more private sector capital investment in our communities. That's why it should be passed.

JOBS

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I'm here today to talk about jobs. People in the Sixth District of Tennessee are hurting. Our State has currently a 9.8 percent unemployment rate, and we have been at over 9 percent unemployment since February of 2009. Many of my counties are well above the Tennessee average. In Overton County, in the eastern part of my district, their unemployment rate is 10.6 percent; and in Marshall County in the southern part of my district, 13.8 percent of our population is out of work.

The President's new slogan on jobs of "We can't wait" is an odd choice. Right now, there are 15 House-passed bills sitting on the Senate desk waiting for action. Since day one, I have been working with my colleagues to create certainty in our economy, trying to cut the burdensome red tape and get government out of the way. Throughout our Nation's history, it's been the American entrepreneurial spirit that has pushed us forward.

Put simply, government does not create jobs. American small

businessowners create jobs. That's why I'm here today to urge Majority Leader REID and our colleagues in the Senate to pass these 15 jobs that we have created in a bipartisan manner over here in the House. America cannot wait, Mr. REID. Take up our bills.

BULLYING PREVENTION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. We cannot forget our children, and I ask that this body not close the doors on the Good Samaritan. Let that person in.

I would encourage the support of H.R. 83 that has focused on protecting our children from bullying. I have founded and cochaired the Congressional Children's Caucus with my colleague from Illinois, a bipartisan caucus that wants to remember the children. I encourage my colleagues to sign on to H.R. 83 so that we can have a national statement against bullying and begin to fund the best practices that our communities can work on to protect our children.

And then I want to ensure that the 2.5 million Americans that will lose their unemployment in 2012 are protected. Let's determine that those who have worked not be left in the cold without unemployment benefits.

And as we look forward to Veterans Day, I want to stand publicly and say that I oppose any cuts to veterans benefits by the supercommittee. I stand in support of our veterans and declare that if they gave us a promise and their willingness to sacrifice their life, we must stand in promise to them to never cut their benefits. Let me say to the homeless veterans that I visited, we, too, respect your condition and your service. We will not cut veterans benefits.

□ 1230

OKLAHOMA CITY: CITY ON A HILL

(Mr. LANKFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANKFORD. As we talk about jobs in America, let's talk about a positive story: Oklahoma City, ranked yesterday as having the number one best employment rate in America among cities of 1 million or more.

In our federal system of government, States and cities compete for excellence, and the result is a terrific city like Oklahoma City.

What made it work? I can tell you what made it work: Great State and local leadership, people who love to work, commonsense regulations locally, business owners who build great businesses, and a great community. In Oklahoma City, you see, we have traditional and new energy production working well side by side, community banks that work through the regu-

latory maze and do commercial lending. We have reasonable real estate development, trucking and manufacturing for all types of products, a military and civilian workforce who work together, small business owners and employees who love to serve our community, and pro-business, pro-family laws and regulations.

There is something our Nation could learn from a city like Oklahoma City.

A SALUTE TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, my friends on the other side of the aisle are very fond of saying that government doesn't create jobs but only the private sector. But all you've got to do is talk to any small business person on any Main Street in America and ask them, if the police department didn't come out and make sure that they had a safe neighborhood, how would that affect their business? Or you can go to a trucking company and say, you know, if the roads and the bridges and the transportation network of this country were not in place, could you ship products if we didn't have an interstate highway system? They would tell you, obviously the government helps business. Obviously. This is so obvious that we have to state the obvious here on the floor of Congress.

This anti-government, anti-public sector, anti-public employee and worker attitude does not help our country. It sets us back, and it is wrong. And I, for one, want to salute the everyday heroes—the cops, the firefighters, the teachers, the people who work on our roads, the people who make sure we have clean water and air to breathe.

Go for it, public employees. We're proud of you.

HOUSE REPUBLICAN PLAN FOR AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. If the Obama administration is serious about creating jobs for the American people, they should start by listening to America's job creators.

As part of my Tennessee Job Creators Tour, I've had the opportunity to meet with over 40 businesses. They have a clear message on how Washington can help create jobs: Get government spending under control; create a fair, flatter and simpler Tax Code; and repeal job-killing regulations that hurt their ability to do business and hire more workers.

House Republicans understand the importance of freeing our Nation's business owners from the confidence-killing threat of higher taxes and more regulation so that they can invest, grow, and hire. To accomplish this, we have passed a total of 17 job-creating

bills this year, and they are now stuck in the Senate. Please go to jobs.gov.gov and read the plan.

The Democrats' suggestion that "poor sales" are driving unemployment is shortsighted and out of touch, considering the overwhelming consensus among the businesses I have personally visited.

It's time for Senate Democrats and President Obama to follow our lead and pass these 17 bills.

NOT A PRETTY PICTURE FOR POLICE OFFICERS

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, Bernard Melekian, who is Director of the Justice Department's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, produced a job loss ratio and report on the police departments throughout the United States of America. Mr. Speaker, it was not a pretty picture. We pat our police officers on the back, say they do a good job, and watch 12,000 of them lose their jobs in the United States of America.

There's one point I want to bring out here, Mr. Speaker, and it's this: If we place so much homeland security responsibilities on our first responders, then how in God's name can we turn our backs when cities and towns and rural areas are in tough financial shape? We will have an opportunity to rectify and right the ship this afternoon.

CALLING ON SENATE TO PASS JOBS BILL

(Mr. MULVANEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, unbeknownst to most people because it doesn't get a lot of coverage, we did something in this House that most people in the Nation didn't think we had the capability of doing. We passed, on a bipartisan basis, a bill that will help put people back to work. We passed a bill that made it easier for companies that do business with the Federal Government to get paid, the 3 percent withholding rule. It passed through subcommittee on a bipartisan basis, through committee on a bipartisan basis, and off of the floor of this House on a bipartisan basis. It is actually part of the President's jobs plan—the President directly addresses this 3 percent withholding in his jobs bill—yet it got absolutely no attention. More importantly, it sits today at the Senate with absolutely no activity on it.

This House, Mr. Speaker, has done its job, and we've done our job on a bipartisan basis to pass a bill to put people back to work. But the Senators—most specifically, the Democrat leadership in the Senate—are not doing their job, and I call upon them to do exactly that.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO REBUILD INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, jobs is the most important issue this House can deal with. And it's been said in the past that there are two things that are bipartisan: defense budgets and infrastructure budgets, transportation.

Historically, we've gotten together on transportation and we've had a transportation bill and we've developed a great infrastructure that made this country the country that it is. No longer is America the top nation in the globe on infrastructure; it's countries in Asia and other places. We're 15th on the list on infrastructure.

The President's got a jobs bill that will put \$50 billion into roads and bridges, infrastructure, and put people to work—25,000 people for \$1 billion of investment go to work.

Ray LaHood, a Republican Member of this House when I started, now the Secretary of Transportation, said yesterday that the Republican side—or at least some part of it—is not here to get things done, that they're here only to defeat this President, and they need to pass the bill to put people to work and improve infrastructure.

I agree with Secretary LaHood. Let's work for America together, let's be bipartisan, and let's rebuild our infrastructure.

REPUBLICANS ARE HOLDING UP JOB CREATION

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up on my colleague from Tennessee.

I heard my Republican colleague on the other side of the aisle talk about the Senate. Well, the fact of the matter is that the Senate Democrats, on at least two occasions, have tried to bring up the American Jobs Act, the President's job initiative. They even broke it into smaller pieces. But what happens is they vote for it, but they can't get the 60 votes because none of the Republicans will join with them to get over that 60-vote majority rule. So this is being held up by the Republicans.

Here in the House, Speaker BOEHNER has said that he will not post the American Jobs Act. You know, it's been 43 weeks since the Republicans took control of the House and they haven't passed a single jobs bill yet. When the Republicans say, oh, they're passing bills to deregulate, that's not going to create jobs.

I have spent a lot of time in the last few weeks going around my district to some of the Main Streets and talking to small businesses. They like the American Jobs Act because they like the fact that it has the payroll tax reduction. They like the various tax

credits if they hire people. But when you ask them about regulation, regulation is not the issue, Mr. Speaker.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YODER) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 3, 2011.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 3, 2011 at 9:36 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 271.
That the Senate passed S. 278.
That the Senate passed S. 535.
That the Senate passed S. 683.
That the Senate passed S. 684.
That the Senate passed S. 808.
That the Senate passed S. 897.
That the Senate passed S. 997.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2112, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2112) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, disagree to the Senate amendments, and request a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to instruct at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Dicks of Washington moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 2112, be instructed to insist on (1) the highest level of funding for the "Federal Highway Administration—Emergency Relief Program" account, within the scope of conference and only for activities consistent with the definition of "disaster relief" included in the Budget Control Act of 2011, and (2) the highest level of funding within the scope of conference for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs.